



Iowa Department of Human Services

Medicaid e-News

Transition:



The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Approves Launch of IA Health Link for April 1, 2016

Find the Governor's news release [here](#).

Read the Letter from Iowa Medicaid Director Mikki Stier [here](#).

Read the Letter from CMS [here](#).

IMPORTANT DATES FOR MEMBERS

Coverage Begins:

Coverage will begin for all members transitioning to the IA Health Link on **April 1, 2016**.

Member Choice Continues:

Members can continue to make changes in MCO selection for any reason until **June 16, 2016**, and after for 'Good Cause' such as their provider hasn't joined the MCO network.

Arriving Soon to Members: Confirmation of Coverage letters and coverage cards will be mailed over the next several weeks.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR PROVIDERS



IA Health Link coverage begins April 1, 2016.

[Iowa Medicaid Member Services](#)

1-800-338-8366

Updated Communications Toolkit

The IA Health Link Communications Toolkit has been updated with the April 1, 2016, launch date and is full of resources including FAQs, social media posts, images, links and more. Download it below:

Communications Toolkit

Follow Us!



Any Willing Provider: MCO must contract with any willing provider for a period of time.

- Physical, behavioral health: September 30, 2016. (6 months)
- Long Term Services and Supports: March 31, 2018. (2 years)

Continuity of Care: Maintains member/provider relationship regardless of network.

- Existing Authorizations: June 30, 2016. (90 days)
- Non-Residential: Until an assessment is conducted and service plan is updated.
- Residential: Until March 31, 2017. (1 year)

Contracting Continues

Providers are encouraged to continue working with the three managed care organizations (MCOs) to complete contracts and credentialing requirements in time for the anticipated March 1, 2016, launch date. Find the [MCO contacts here](#).

Iowa providers have signed more than 100,000 contracts with the MCOs. More than 95 percent of Iowa's currently active providers have signed with at least one MCO, nearly 75 percent with two MCOs, and over 65 percent with all three health plans.

Advisory Group Meetings:

Medical Assistance Advisory Council (MAAC) Executive Committee Meeting

The MAAC Executive Committee (EC) meeting on February 16, 2016, included topics on Medicaid Modernization implementation as well as MAAC operational procedures. The EC also provided notice of the election of a vice-chairperson. The committee discussed the planned format for the listening session meetings required by Senate File 505, which will take place monthly throughout the year.

For more information, view the meeting minutes [here](#).

Medical Assistance Advisory Council (MAAC) Full Council Meeting

The MAAC Full Council meeting took place on February 18, 2016. Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME) provided updates on Medicaid Modernization and IA Health Link communications. Details and dates of the upcoming listening session meetings were provided.

Minutes will be posted soon. For more information, agendas, minutes and materials visit the MAAC webpage [here](#).

Managed Care

Organizations:

[**Amerigroup Iowa, Inc.**](#)

1-800-600-4441

[**AmeriHealth Caritas**](#)

1-855-332-2440

[**United Healthcare**](#)

[**Plan of the River**](#)

[**Valley, Inc.**](#)

1-800-464-9484

Resources and Tools:

Looking for an Old Issue of the Medicaid e-News?

Each edition features useful tools and important updates. Now you can quickly access old issues to find what your looking for. Visit the [Iowa Medicaid newsletter page](#) where you'll find links to each issue.

Critical Incident Reporting

Critical Incident reporting, as described in Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) Chapters 77 and 90, remains a requirement for those eligible to participate in Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS).

Amerigroup Iowa, Inc., AmeriHealth Caritas Iowa, Inc., and UnitedHealthcare Plan of the River Valley, Inc., have developed a universal critical incident form for all HCBS providers and case managers to utilize when submitting a major incident to help streamline the incident reporting process, known as the Iowa Health Link Incident Report Form.

When a major incident has been witnessed or discovered, the HCBS provider/case manager must complete the form and submit to the HCBS member's MCO in a clear, legible manner, providing as much information as possible regarding the incident. Contact and submission information for all of the MCOs is provided on the back of the form.

View the form [here](#).

Managed Care Organization Provider Resource Pages Available

Comprehensive resource pages are available for each Managed Care Organization (MCO), featuring provider training manuals, webinars and important updates. You may view them below:

Amerigroup.com/IAProvider

AmeriHealthCaritasIA.com/IAProvider

UHCommunityPlan.com/IAProvider

Informational Letters:

Autism Related Services and Supports

Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2016, the IME is responsible for coverage of Medicaid funded autism related services previously paid through Magellan until the launch of the IA Health Link on April 1, 2016.

For more information, see [Informational Letter 1623-MC](#).

Launch of IA Health Link set for April 1, 2016

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has reached a final decision on the implementation of the IA Health Link managed care program. The program will now begin on April 1, 2016.

For more information, see [Informational Letter 1624-MC](#).

Reminder: Provider Informational Letters

Informational letters are posted through the Iowa Medicaid Portal Application (IMPA) system and are available on the DHS website [here](#). These letters communicate important policies and procedures for providers and their administrative staff. Providers should watch closely for updates during the transition period.

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